

a' 154839 filed May 27, 1996. All of the foregoing applications are incorporated herein by reference to the extent permitted by law.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-9, 11, 15-18, 20-21, 23, 27-34, 36-37 and 39 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend the claims as follows:

a² 12. (Amended) [The composite optical device according to claim 6, wherein] A composite optical device comprising:

a plurality of light emitting elements, a photodetector element and a transparent optical element having a partial reflective plane that are provided on a base body, said light emitting elements having different read/write specifications, said light emitting elements [are] being arranged to share a common optical axis and to share a common reflective plane of said optical device.

13. (Amended) [The composite optical device according to claim 6, wherein] A composite optical device comprising:

a plurality of light emitting elements, a photodetector element and a transparent optical element having a partial reflective plane that are provided on a base body, said light emitting elements having different read/write specifications, said light emitting elements [are] being disposed at different heights from [the] a surface of said base body.

14. (Amended) [The composite optical device according to claim 6, wherein] A composite optical device comprising:

a plurality of light emitting elements, a photodetector element and a transparent optical element having a partial reflective plane that are provided on a base body, said light emitting elements having different read/write specifications, said light emitting elements [are] being arranged to share a common optical axis and to share [a part of] said photodetector element.

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19. (Amended) [The optical pickup device of claim 16, wherein there are two photocouplers and the] An optical device comprising two photocouplers having different read/write specifications so as to enable the optical device to read from and write to recording media having a like plurality of different read/write formats.

the photocouplers [share] sharing a common half mirror such that one photocoupler is aligned with the axis of [the] direct light passing through the half mirror while the other photocoupler is aligned with the axis of incident light reflected by the half mirror.

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22. (Amended) [The optical pickup device of claim 20, wherein] An optical device comprising two photocouplers having different read/write specifications so as to enable the optical device to read from and write to recording media having a like plurality of different read/write formats, wherein said optical pickup device has a prism shared in common by the photocouplers with the prism used by the photocouplers to reflect light toward the optical recording medium, the prism [has] having a plurality of reflecting surfaces and the photocouplers [use] using different reflecting surfaces of the prism.

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24. (Amended) [The optical pickup device of claim 20, wherein] An optical device comprising two photocouplers having different read/write specifications so as to enable the optical device to read from and write to recording media having a like plurality of different read/write formats, said optical pickup device [having] has a prism shared in common by the photocouplers with the prism used by the photocouplers to reflect light toward the optical recording medium, the photocouplers [are] being positioned in over-and-under relationship.

25. (Amended) [The optical pickup device of claim 20, wherein] An optical device comprising two photocouplers having different read/write specifications so as to enable the optical device to read from and write to recording media having a like plurality of different read/write formats, said optical pickup device having a prism shared in common by the photocouplers with the prism used by the photocouplers to reflect light toward the optical recording medium, the photocouplers [are] being positioned in confronting relationship on opposite sides of the prism.

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26. (Amended) The optical pickup device of claim 25, wherein the photocouplers comprise photo diodes located under the prism and the photocouplers are operatively interconnected so as to share in common the photo diodes located under [said] the prism.

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35. (Amended) [The optical disc system of claim 32,] An optical disc system comprising a plurality of photocouplers having different read/write specifications so as to enable the optical device to read from and write to recording media having a like plurality of different read/write formats, a circuit for driving said optical device and a selector for selecting between said composite optical devices, wherein there are two photocouplers and the photocouplers share a common half mirror such that one photocoupler is aligned with the axis of the direct light passing through the half mirror while the other photocoupler is aligned with the axis of incident light reflected by the half mirror.

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38. (Amended) [The optical disc system of claim 36, wherein] An optical disc system comprising a plurality of photocouplers having different read/write specifications so as to enable the optical device to read from and write to recording media having a like plurality of different read/write formats, a circuit for driving said optical device and a selector for selecting between said composite optical devices, said optical pickup device having a prism shared in common by the photocouplers with the prism used by the photocouplers to reflect light toward the optical recording medium, the prism [has] having a plurality of reflecting surfaces and the photocouplers [use] using different reflecting surfaces of the prism.

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40. (Amended) [The optical disc system of claim 36, wherein] An optical disc system comprising a plurality of photocouplers having different read/write specifications so as to enable the optical device to read from and write to recording media having a like plurality of different read/write formats, a circuit for driving said optical device and a selector for selecting between said composite optical devices, said optical pickup device having a prism shared in common by the photocouplers with the prism used by the photocouplers to reflect light toward the optical recording medium, the photocouplers [are] being positioned in over-and-under relationship.